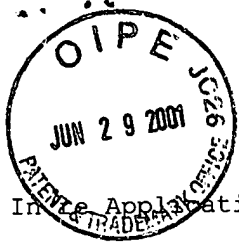


07-02-01

GP/28/3/18

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 002818/PDD/PSI/JW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Inventor: Application of: Suketu A. Parikh)
 Serial No.: 09/244,788)
 Filed: 2/5/99)
 For: Dual Damascene Misalignment Tolerant)
 Techniques For Vias And Sacrificial)
 Etch Segments)

Group Art Unit 2813 JUL 10 2001
 Examiner: Pham T.
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE** in the above-identified application, in response to the Office Action mailed 1/10/01. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

	(Col.1)		(Col.2)	(Col.3)		
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	27	MINUS	42	0		\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	3	MINUS	6	0		\$0.00
FIRST	PRESENTATION	OF	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT	CLAIM		
						TOTAL ..\$0.00

* If the entry in Col.1 is less than the entry in Col.2, "0" is written in Col.3.
 ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, "20" is written in this space.
 *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, "3" is written in this space.
 The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col.1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.)

X No additional Filing Fee is required.

X Petition to extend time to respond.

X Extension Fee \$890.00

 Other. Please specify:

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$890.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-1074

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1074. A duplicate of this transmittal is enclosed.

Please address all correspondence to:

PATENT COUNSEL
 APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
 Legal Affairs Department
 P.O. Box 450 A
 Santa Clara, CA 95052

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Express Mail Receipt No. EL266340226US

Date of Deposit 6-29-2001

Signature: *Robert W. Mulcahy*

Respectfully Submitted,

By: *Robert W. Mulcahy*

Robert W. Mulcahy
 Registration No.: 25,436

Dated: 6/29/01

Non-compliance
12/1/01
7-20-01 entered
in part
RECEIVED
PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 002818/PDD/PSU/JW

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
JUL 10 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Suketu A. Parikh

Serial No.: 09/244,788

Filed: 2/5/99

For: Dual Damascene Misalignment
Tolerant Techniques For Vias And
Sacrificial Etch Segments



) Group:
) Art Unit: 2813
) Examiner: Pham T.
)
) Amendment and Response to Office
) Action Mailed 1/10/01
)
) PATENT COUNSEL
) APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
) Legal Affairs Department
) P.O. Box 450 A
) Santa Clara, CA 95052

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This amendment and response under 37 CFR §1.11 concerning the above-identified patent application is in response to the Office Action mailed January 10, 2001.

AFFIRMATION OF ELECTION OF SPECIES

Applicant hereby affirms his election of claims 1-32, in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement.

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 24, 20 and 22.